

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

10/5/04

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 1396 (Garcia)

SB 1396 would allow Michigan Packaging in Mason to qualify for the MEGA grant. The House substituted the bill to include the definition of "rural business" as a business located in a county with a population of 80,000 as opposed to 75,000 as the bill is written. This increase would qualify Van Buren and Grand Traverse counties as rural.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 1396 [RC 721: 36 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

HB 5118 (KOLB)

HB 5118 require the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Commission (proposed by Senate Bill 753) to study the environmental threats of lead poisoning to children's health; review the State's lead poisoning prevention program; evaluate the effectiveness of the program, including its ability to satisfy Federal law requirements that 100% of all young children enrolled in Medicaid be screened with a blood lead test; and make recommendations for the program's improvement.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to HB 5118 [RC 722: 35 yes, 1 no (Sanborn)].

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 1175 (George) SB 1176 (George)

SB 1175 would felony offenses of damaging or destroying research property to the state sentencing guidelines.

• SB 1175 passed [RC 723: 36 yes, 0 no].

<u>SB 1176</u> would prohibit persons from: 1) Damaging or destroying another person's research property with the intent to frighten, intimidate, or harass any person because of his or her participation or involvement in, or cooperation with, research; to prevent any person from engaging in any lawful profession, occupation, or activity because of his or her participation or involvement in, or cooperation with, research; or, to prevent, delay, hinder, or otherwise harm the research or use of the research. 2) Placing any object in any research

property to prevent the lawful growing, harvesting, transportation, keeping, selling, or processing of that research property.

• SB 1176 passed [RC 724: 36 yes, 0 no].

HB 5763 (LIPSEY)

HB 5763 would amend provisions regarding property protected from creditors to create a section unique to bankruptcy proceedings and to revise those exemptions by increasing the dollar thresholds (especially the homestead exemption which is increased to \$30,000) and providing for future adjustments indexed to inflation.

• HB 5763 passed with IE [RC 725: 36 yes, 0 no].

HB 6227 (SHELTROWN)

HB 6227 is intended to capture a vote already taken in Roscommon County relative to a tax limitation which the County seeks to have effective in 2004. The only thing it does is change the effective date of a voted tax limitation.

- HB 6227 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.
- HB 6227 passed with IE [RC 726: 31 yes, 4 no (gop)].

THIRD READING

SB 1383 (Gilbert)

SB 1383 would delete a limit on the outstanding balance of purchases by a county road commission; and increase the amount of money a county road commission may spend without advertising for sealed proposals. By removing a limit on the outstanding balance of purchases by a county road commission, the bill would increase the amount of purchases that a county road commission may make using an installment method (i.e., debt). The removal of this limit could result in additional debt issuance by county road commissions.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- SB 1383 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4600 (Gaffney)

HB 4600 would prohibit minors with a graduated drivers license from transporting more than one passenger under the age of 21, other than family members, in their vehicle. This restriction would apply to all drivers under 17 years of age.

Support: AAA, State Police.

Oppose: Secretary of State.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- Gilbert 2 (S-3) was adopted.
- Garcia 2A was withdrawn.
- HB 4600 was moved to 3rd Reading. BERNERO/Goschka: This bill is unnecessary and a biggovernment overreach.